



730083-2000.2

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Stelzer et al.  
Serial No. : 09/943,346  
Filed : February 9, 1999  
For : MINIMALLY INVASIVE SURGERY DEVICE  
Unit : 3739

745 Fifth Avenue  
New York, New York 10151

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on February 5, 2002.

MATTHEW K. RYAN REG. NO. 30,800  
Name of Applicant, Assignee or Registered Representative

Matthew K. Ryan  
Signature

Date of Signature

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This amendment is submitted in response to the October 5, 2001 Notice to File Corrected Application Papers.

**REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME**

Applicant respectfully requests a one-month extension, of the term for reply, i.e., up to and including February 5, 2002. *See 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136(a), 1.17(a).* The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee of \$55.00 for extension by a small entity, and any additionally required fee for the extension, or any other fee occasioned by this paper, or credit any overpayment in such fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.